

**WOODS CROSS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2021**

The minutes of the Woods Cross City Council meeting held by Zoom conferencing January 5, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.

CONDUCTING: Rick Earnshaw, Mayor

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rick Earnshaw, Mayor	Wally Larrabee
Julie Checketts	Matt Terry
Tamra Dayley	Ryan Westergard

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary Uresk, City Administrator	Chad Soffe, Chief of Police
Jessica Sims, Assistant City Administrator	Danny Rhodes, Water/Storm Superintendent
Annette Hanson, City Recorder	Sam Christiansen, Public Works Director

VISITORS BY REMOTE:

LeGrande Blackley	Hyrum Smith
Gary Sharp	

The Mayor welcomed those in attendance remotely. He invited all in attendance to participate in the meeting if they would like to do so.

INVOCATION: Rick Earnshaw

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Gary Uresk

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MINUTES

The City Council reviewed the minutes of the City Council meeting held December 15, 2021.

Following the review of the minutes, Council Member Westergard made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Council Member Larrabee seconded the motion, and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

RATIFY CASH DISBURSEMENTS

The Mayor called for the ratification of the cash disbursements for the time period of 12/5/20-12/17/20.

Council Member Terry made a motion to ratify the cash disbursements for 12/5/20-12/17/20. Council Member Larrabee seconded the motion, and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF CASH DISBURSEMENTS

The Mayor called for the approval of the cash disbursements for the time period for 12/18/20-12/30/20.

Council Member Westergard made a motion to approve the cash disbursements for the time period of 12/18/20-12/30/20. Council Member Checketts seconded the motion, and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

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YOUTH CITY COUNCIL REPORT

There was no one present at the meeting representing the Youth City Council so there was no report.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

The Mayor gave the floor to the Public Works Director who reported the following:

Public Works is utilizing a new data tracking program for payroll timecards, hours tracked in Excel, information analysis for budget needs, personnel needs, accountability, and feedback.

Woods Cross has a new Water/Storm Superintendent, Mr. Danny Rhodes. The Public Works Director introduced to the City Council and in turn, Mr. Rhodes introduced himself to the Council and said he was excited to be working with Woods Cross City. The Public Works Director said Mr. Rhodes is very qualified for this job and he is looking forward to working closely with him.

The old water meters are being broken down for scrap. There were 3 water leaks that had been repaired and that 36 miles of street sweeping had been completed.

Snowplows were mobilized three times. He also noted that chipping requests would be starting in March along with noted Saturday waste drop off at the public works department.

The Parks Department has been doing equipment maintenance. He said there had been a playground inspection at Mountain View Park by the Trust because of safety concerns. The inspection suggested adding more soft fall to the playground area and also to address trip hazards. It was also noted fencing had been repaired from the windstorm and after some vandalism.

He reported that he was looking into pricing for additional pickle ball courts possibly to be constructed in Mills Park and/or Mountain View Park. He also noted the pickle ball court seasonal closure policy. He went over the needs for the pickle ball courts already in service regarding resurfacing, prolonging the life of the courts and nets, how to possibly prevent confusion of seasonal closure among the players and to address the large numbers of players who come from outside the city boundaries.

The Public Works Director recommended the pickle ball courts and the tennis courts be closed November 1-March 1. He noted he would like to put up signage stating seasonal closures and the nets be taken down. He also recommended that the gates be locked to prevent vandalism and damage from activities like snow removal, players putting up temporary nets damaging posts and court usage for non-pickle ball or tennis activities.

The Mayor noted he has gotten many requests for keeping some of the pickle ball courts open during the winter if weather allows. There was discussion by the Mayor and Council on the possibility of leaving a few of the courts open for play on good weather days, even throughout the winter months. It was brought up the public need to engage in physical activity as the pandemic continues to keep people from getting out and doing things they would normally do.

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Mr. Christiansen also reported on the windstorm repairs, noting that stump grinding has been completed and that there will be landscape repair as weather allows. There are plans for tree planting for Arbor Day. He also noted they are continuing to wait on clean-up funding to come through.

He also shared that the department had been involved in safety training regarding heavy trucks.

CONSIDERATION TO GRANT CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE VALLEY MEADOWS SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT 1400 WEST 1500 SOUTH

The Public Works Director continued with the floor and noted the following for the City Council:

“We have reviewed the Valley Meadows Development, located at 1400 West and 1500 South for conditional acceptance. We recommend conditional acceptance of this development to start the warranty period and authorize the release of the appropriate bond amounts down to 10%, with the exception of the following:

Streetlights 3 @\$2,500 Each = \$7,500
Slurry Seal \$0.17 SF x 37,704 SF = \$6,409.68
Sidewalk \$18.40 LF x 1,425 FT = \$26, 220
Street Trees 34 x \$225 Each - \$7,650
Street Monuments 2 x \$600 Each = \$1,200
Fencing \$12 LF x 717 FT = \$8,604

Following the information given, Council Member Westergard made a motion to grant conditional acceptance of the Valley Meadows subdivision located at 1400 West 1500 South. Council Member Checketts seconded the motion, and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

OPEN SESSION

Council Member Checketts said she had one item. She said she would like staff to contact UDOT and have them place a “No Left Turn” sign on Highway 89 where the new cement barrier has been installed so it is clear there is no left turn onto 1800 South. She said a sign is needed because people are trying to get around the barrier to make a left turn and it is very dangerous.

Staff said they would contact UDOT and let them know a sign is needed.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF 4 POLICE VEHICLES

The Mayor gave the floor to the City Administrator and he reported the following to the City Council:

“After the Chief and I reviewed the cost of purchasing police vehicles vs leasing we have made the decision to recommend leasing the vehicles rather than purchasing them. The reason for recommending leasing vs purchasing is:

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- a. The lease price of \$4,500 per vehicle offered by Horsepower is a great lease rate.
- b. If we wanted to match this cost through purchasing, we would need to purchase and resale our vehicles every year or two to ensure we got the value out of our vehicles when we sold them. Selling our vehicles every year or every other year would be time consuming and with the price Horsepower is offering, it is not cost effective if we enter in the man hours selling the vehicles.
- c. If we take the funds we save through leasing and reserve them in the Capital Improvement Fund we can build up funds over the years to ensure we have funding available to cover the lease payments during any economic downturn.

“For these reasons we are recommending leasing 4 additional Ford F-150 trucks from Horsepower leasing at \$4,500 each annually for two years, for a total of \$18,000 a year. The first year we will need to equip the vehicles at \$21,000 each which will bring the total to \$102,000.

“I have given to the Council, a chart that shows the annual cost of moving all 17 of our police vehicles to a lease payment. The cost peaks at \$173,300 in FY 23 and then levels out at around \$105,000 in FY 24.”

Police Vehicle Leasing Schedule

	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
Lease #1 (5 Vehicles)	\$127,500	\$22,500	\$38,500	\$22,500	\$38,500	\$22,500
Lease #2 (4 Vehicles)		\$102,000	\$18,000	\$30,800	\$18,000	\$30,800
Lease #3 (4 Vehicles)			\$102,000	\$18,000	\$30,800	\$18,000
Lease #4 (4 Vehicles)				\$102,000	\$18,000	\$30,800
Total	\$127,500	\$124,500	\$158,500	\$173,300	\$105,300	\$102,100

Annual Lease Payment	\$4,500
Equipment Cost for Vehicle	\$21,000
Cost per Vehicle to Refit Vehicle	\$3,200

There was discussion on the benefits of leasing opposed to purchasing. There was also some concern about the lease payments increasing. It was also noted the police department would keep 4 vehicles the already own, 3 marked and one unmarked, so they can be used when the other vehicles are out being fixed. Chief Soffe said Horsepower told him the leasing rate would not go up for 2021. He said he would check with another dealer to see what their pricing is for leasing.

Following the information given, Council Member Checketts made a motion to approve the leasing of 4 police vehicles. Council Member Terry seconded the motion, and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

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DISCUSSION ON COVID HAZARD PAY

The Mayor gave the floor to the Council Member Checketts who shared that she felt like it would be nice to give a bonus to the Woods Cross police officers for hazard pay. It was noted it would also be appropriate to include the public works employees as well.

The Mayor said he would like to discuss an amount that would be appropriate for a one time hazard bonus for the essential workers in the city. He said he would like to set up a meeting in the next few weeks to discuss a dollar amount and then bring a recommendation back to the Council for their approval.

DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED GLASS RECYCLING IN THE CITY

The Mayor noted he had gotten a letter from Momentum Recycling introducing a curbside glass recycling program being expanded into Woods Cross. The Mayor noted Momentum is the only glass recycling program in the region. He said they would like Woods Cross to be one of the first cities in the county to start with a glass recycling program. He said Momentum is charging an \$8.00 a month fee and a one time \$25 fee for the delivery of a collection bin.

There was discussion on whether there could be a common glass drop off bin located somewhere within the city. It was noted the city would probably be charged a fee for that kind of bin. Council Member Terry said he was not in favor of the city financially sponsoring a glass bin as he did not feel that being responsible for broken glass and other potential problems from a common bin is in the city's best interest.

The Council said expressed willingness to share information about household glass recycling on the city's website and as part of the welcome packet new residents receive but they did not feel the city sponsor a glass recycling program at this time.

DISCUSSION ON GARBAGE COLLECTION CONTRACT EXTENSION PROPOSED BY WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Mayor gave the floor to the City Administrator who noted the following for the Council:

“In November Waste Management proposed to extend our contract, leaving the prices as they were with a few other changes. I have listed their proposal below:

a. Current rates will remain the same.

First Garbage Container	\$4.85
Additional Garbage Container	\$2.16
Green Waste Container	\$4.37
Recycling Container	\$4.53

b. Utilize the Water, Sewer, and Trash CPI rather than the West Urban CPI

c. They are open to the length of the extension. It can be from 1 to 5 years.

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“After review of their proposal, the only item I take issue with is the recycling cost. I feel the other charges are reasonable and we may end up paying more if we bid it out.

“Waste Management came to us when the recycling markets went haywire and asked for an increase in their recycling can charge. At the time we allowed them a \$1.00 increase per month. Since that time, they have switched from hauling recyclables to their facility in West Jordan to hauling them to our facility in Layton. With this being the case, they are only bearing the cost of hauling. Since they are only collecting every two weeks, I believe the \$4.53 cost is high since their cost of collecting the black can on a weekly basis is \$4.85. This inflated cost is reflected in comparison with our sister cities whose recycling collection costs are about \$.80 less than ours.

“Furthermore, I would like to have a discussion with Nathan at Wasatch Integrated Waste. I would like to see the cities who are recycling receive a great benefit from recycling since the District gains a benefit from us separating the waste at the curbside.

“Since we have some time before our contract expires in June, I would like to visit with Blake at Waste Management about possibly lowering the recycling charge and Nathan at Wasatch Integrated about providing more benefits for those cities that provide curbside recycling.”

The Council discussed the benefits of the recycling can and said there is a cost saving for them as there is no tipping fee for the blue cans. The Council asked if the blue cans could be picked up each week instead of every other week, possibly instead of lowering the fees for the blue recycling can.

The City Administrator said he would like to do further analysis as well as talk to Waste Management and Wasatch Integrated Waste and bring back the information to the Council.

DISCUSSION ON FIBER TO THE HOME PROPOSED BY UTOPIA

The City Administrator continued with the floor and said following the previous discussion regarding UTOPIA, as well as reviewing results from the resident survey, it is clear that the residents would benefit and support the fiber to the home program. He asked the Council if they liked the UTOPIA model or would the Council like to look into other options.

The Mayor said he was impressed with the presentation that UTOPIA had given and the franchise fees would provide for the “backstop” for this program. He said he has received comments from several residents that they were excited at the possibility of getting this fiber optic network. He said it is a much better product now than it was in the past.

Council Member Terry said he would like to move forward with UTOPIA and their contractors and said it would be beneficial to the city.

Council Member Dayley said she is interested in having it turnkey and to avoid headaches using by UTOPIA’s contractors. She said she is still interested in seeing if the school district is going with UTOPIA.

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Council Member Larrabee said he agreed the service would be a good addition to the city.

Council Member Checketts said she felt there would be the necessary support from the community to support the fiber optic network.

Council Member Westergard also said he thought there would be enough support to get the fiber optic done in the city.

The Mayor said that with COVID, many more people are working from home. Moving forward, even after COVID, this trend may continue and there will still be a need for fiber in the future.

The City Administrator said he is waiting for the UTOPIA presentation to be sent to him and as soon as he got a copy of the presentation, he would get it on the website so residents could review it. He also said he would pursue an agreement with UTOPIA to bring back to a future City Council meeting.

DISCUSSION ON CITY HALL PUBLIC ACCESS FOR 2021

The Mayor gave the floor to Council Member Checketts who said some of the neighboring city's have gone back to normal business hours. She said she was wondering when the city planned on opening city hall again for regular business hours. She said she had a few people who had asked about fingerprints and a building permit question that needed to be answered.

The City Administrator said they have discussed this in staff meeting and the staff said they would still like to have the next few months with limited hours with the COVID numbers are still high and increasing. He said he would discuss in the next staff meeting. He said he felt like in the next few months business would be back to normal business hours. He said one of the reasons the building has been closed is to let the residents know the city is taking this problem very seriously. He said there have been measures taken to let residents come to the building through the doorbell system. He said as COVID cases are still extremely high that any opportunity we have right now to limit contact is beneficial. He said as the vaccination moves forward there will be more of an opportunity to open the offices.

ANGEL TREE UPDATE

Council Member Checketts gave an update on the Angel Tree. She said the families were very grateful for what they did for them. She said in all, 17 families were helped with Christmas, there were 60 care kits given to Avalon Care Center, they gave 24 coats to WX elementary and also helped with the Utah Foster Care shopping day. She also said a few grocery cards were given to a family as well. She said it was a really great experience. It was also noted there had been funds given to residents to help with past due water bills.

The Mayor thanked Council Member Checketts for her help with the Angel Tree and said it was very successful and many people were helped who were in need at Christmas.

SOUTH DAVIS SEWER DISTRICT REPORT

Council Member Westergard said there had been no meeting since the Council had met last.

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PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Council Member Terry reported on several Planning Commission meetings that were held in December. Please see the minutes of those meetings for the details of his report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor said he had nothing further to report.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The City Administrator said it was time to schedule the strategic planning meeting for this year. He said they could discuss when a good time to meet would be. The Council also discussed if it would be an in person meeting or a Zoom meeting.

Council Member Westergard said he felt like an in person meeting would be a good idea for this meeting since there is so much to be discussed.

The City Administrator said he could set up the meeting to be socially distanced at the public works building. It was also discussed that the time frame be more limited if possible.

It was decided that the strategic planning session would be set for March 6 9:00 A.M. to Noon.

The Council also reviewed the action item report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Council Member Terry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 P.M. with Council Member Larrabee seconding the motion and all voted for the motion through a roll call vote.

Rick Earnshaw, Mayor

Annette Hanson, City Recorder

Approved by City Council 1/19/21